



PUBLISHED DAILY AND WEEKLY BY
EDGAR SNOWDEN.
SATURDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 15.

The Philadelphia Weekly Times of this week contains a long letter from Col. John S. Mosby, in which the Colonel says the charge that Gen. J. E. B. Stuart, by passing with his cavalry around the rear and right of Hooker into Pennsylvania, and thus allowing the Federal army to be interposed between him and General Lee, had taken away "the eyes of the army," and left the Confederate general in an enemy's country like a blind giant groping in the dark, is unjust; that Stuart's expedition was undertaken with the approval of the commanding general; that he left behind him a force of cavalry amply sufficient to observe and report the movements of the Union army to General Lee, as well as to check its reconnaissance and guard the Confederate column against any surprise; that Stuart's movement was a highly successful one, considered either as an independent raid or a detachment of cavalry on the communications of the Federal army, or in its relations to the movements of the Confederate army; and that the success which attended the Confederate arms on the first day's fighting was largely due to the enterprise of Stuart.

The U. S. House of Representatives, yesterday, agreed to the report of the conference committee on the deficiency bill, which now goes to the President for approval. The Senate amendments to the Paris Exposition bill were also concurred in. Mr. Wood reported a resolution authorizing the various committees having charge of the affairs of the several departments, to investigate frauds and abuses, to sit during the recess and have power to send for persons and papers. The republicans opposed the latter clause of the resolution and finally declined voting, leaving the House without a quorum, when it had to adjourn.

A glaring instance of the worst kind of worthlessness of trials by jury, as conducted in this country, was presented in the case of the colored man whose trial for brutally assaulting and outraging a white girl was concluded in Washington, yesterday, by the discharge of the jury, who failed to agree. The proof of the defendant's guilt was direct and positive, yet, as it was a mixed jury, they could not render a verdict, the white portion being for conviction and the colored for acquittal. Our only hope for the correction of a system that allows such gross injustice lies in the fact that its absurdities are becoming so ridiculous as to color the demands for its abolishment.

The lovers of "peace at any cost" will be gratified at the present prospect for a settlement of the troubles that have disquieted France for some time past. No matter how "uneasy rests the head that wears a crown," high official position, with a large salary to support it, has its pleasures, and, in the case of President MacMahon, they were strong enough to induce him, rather than relinquish them, when every other means had failed, to repudiate his former policy and make concessions to red republicanism, for by whatever name, not the majority, but the present ruling party in France may be called, its strength lies in its republican allies.

The Culpeper Times pays a well deserved compliment to Maj. S. S. Bradford, the President of the Piedmont Agricultural Society, for the manner in which he has conducted the affairs of that Society, and especially for scrupulously maintaining order and decorum at its annual exhibitions, and "unswervingly forbidding the horrid examples of profanity, drunkenness, gambling and other swindling devices sometimes seen at such places."

In Senator Conkling's absorbing and successful effort to defeat President Hayes, in the matter of the New York Custom House appointments, such insignificant affairs as personal estrangements with fellow members were swallowed, and the difficulty that had existed between him and Senator Blaine, for twelve long years, was settled in a moment, not, however, to those who know him, because he hates Blaine less, but that he hates Hayes more.

Of all the roles in which Senator Conkling could possibly appear, the one he selected yesterday was the most natural. His whole life rendered his assumed character of bully ridiculously congruous. The idea of the New York Senator being a bully strikes the public by its appropriateness. Bully Conkling is pat and good. A bully, however, it must be remembered, is more insolent than courageous.

The first number of Scribner's Magazine for next year has been received from its publishers, Scribner & Co., New York. It indicates an improvement even upon the acknowledged excellence of this year's numbers; is handsomely illustrated, and its table of contents presents unusual attractions—an article of especial interest being a description of the relics recently found by Dr. Schlimm, at Mycenae.

Littell's Living Age for Dec'r. 15th has been received from its Boston publishers. It, like the preceding numbers, contains the cream of contemporary magazines.

We have received the November number of the Masonic Eclectic, edited and published by G. H. Ramsey, of this city. It is neatly printed and is filled with a matter of interest to the craft.

Mexican War.
GALVESTON, TEX., Dec. 15.—The Governor has sent the following dispatch to the President: "I am officially informed that citizens of Mexico, in connection with citizens of El Paso county, Texas, of Mexican birth, were fighting all day yesterday in Texas, with a detachment of State troops, who were aiding our civil authorities. The Mexican force being to strong to be repelled by Texas troops, and it being impossible to raise a civil posse from the citizens, who are nearly all of Mexican blood and sympathy, and having no reinforcement within several hundred miles, I ask the aid of such United States troops as may be nearest to the scene of action, to repel this invasion of our territory."

Courtesies of the Senate.

The Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Sun, in narrating the proceedings of the executive session of the U. S. Senate, yesterday, says:

In the executive session of the Senate this afternoon there were two incidents of much interest, one of which was the cause of great excitement among Senators. When the nomination of Melio, of Florida, for Associate Justice of New Mexico, was pending, Senator Conover said that Melio, if a lawyer at all, was one of no ability, and was utterly incompetent to fill a judicial position. When Senator Blaine in Florida had given more attention to "apple jack" than to anything else. He had been on both sides in the war and betrayed both. He was insincere and a time server, and was respected neither by the democrats nor the republicans of Florida. Neither party could trust him, for he would sell out whenever his personal interest would be advanced. The republicans of Florida had, after the presidential election of last year, distrusted him so much that they kept over him the most vigilant and untiring surveillance. Had it not been for this he would, if he could have made anything out of it, decided the electoral vote of Florida for the other side.

The result of this speech of Senator Conover's was that no attempt was made to defend the nomination of Melio, and even Stanley Matthews, the President's next friend, walked out of the chamber, so as not to be present when the vote was taken. Melio's nomination was overwhelmingly rejected. The result shows that Senator Conover's influence with his party associates has not been impaired by his determined stand in opposition to them in the Butler case and the New York nominations.

After Melio was so summarily disposed of the nomination of Edward C. Wade as internal revenue collector for the third Georgia district, vice Fannin, to be removed, was taken up.

The nomination was opposed by both Senators Gordon and Hill. During the discussion a passage occurred between Mr. Blaine and the Georgia Senators. They said that Wade was a mischief maker and very obnoxious to the people of Georgia, and allusion was made to his writing letters to the North alleging outrages in Georgia.

Mr. Hill said it was time that the feeling of antagonism between the North and the South should be brought to an end.

Mr. Blaine said the Senator could calm his nerves, but the feeling between the two sections would not be allayed while the life and property of republicans were so insecure at the South.

Gen. Gordon said Georgia was a sovereign State, and the opinion of its Senators as to officers in that State ought to have some weight.

Mr. Blaine retorted that the Senator who the other day stood up for the right of the President to make his own appointments was now opposing that right. The Senator now thought also that a Senator should have some voice in the appointments for his State, but day before yesterday he was of a very different opinion.

After this there was a temporary lull in the proceedings caused by a suggestion from some Senator to adjourn.

Mr. Conkling, and it is said one or two other Senators, called "go on, go on with the regular order."

General Gordon rose and said that the Senator from New York was arrogating too much to himself in undertaking to order the Senators and the Vice President to go on with the business of the Senate. The Senator was not the Senate.

Mr. Conkling responded that the Senator's statement that he was ordering the Senate was untrue.

Gen. Gordon repeated what he had said, and Mr. Conkling followed with his disclaimer in the same terms as before.

Gen. Gordon then said, "This can be settled elsewhere."

Mr. Conkling quickly replied, "So far as I am concerned it can be settled here or elsewhere."

Senator Conkling was the more excited of the two, though both Senators were quite ruffled.

Sensors Thurman and Hamlin both attempted to pour oil on the troubled waters, and said that they did not think there need be any cause for misunderstanding.

Mr. Hamlin said it was very customary for Senators to call for the regular order of business when there was a lull in the proceedings; that he had frequently done it himself and with no intention to offend any one. Nothing further was said by either Senators Gordon or Conkling, and the Senate soon after adjourned.

Mr. Wade was confirmed by the solid republican vote, so that the President for once had the unanimous support of his party. The democrats all voted to reject.

To night mutual friends of Senators Gordon and Conkling are engaged in the effort to smooth over the matter at issue between them. It is believed the effort will succeed so far as to restore their former relations, which were those of courtesy only and not of friendship.

The Washington Post gives the following account of the difficulty between Senators Gordon and Conkling:

"A series of insults which Conkling and other republican Senators have been systematically giving to Southern Senators for the deliberate purpose of stirring up bad blood and reviving sectional feeling, culminated in executive session yesterday in an exciting and deplorable passage between Senators Gordon and Conkling, which has stirred up much bad blood and may result in something more serious. Gordon had the floor and was calling for a report which the Committee on Commerce had directed Spencer to make on the nomination of one Smith to be Collector at Mobile. The debate had been conducted with a good deal of irritation. Gordon and Hill had been working together, and had urged that the Senate ought, in its usual courtesy, to be guided by the joint request of Southern Senators. Blaine, who had already asserted in an aggravating way that most of the Ku Klux stories, when investigated, were found to be true, or worse than true, sarcastically said, in reply to the plea for courtesy, that he did not see what right the Southern Senators had to ask for courtesy, in consideration of their recent courtesy to the senator from New York. This really provoked derisive laughter from the republican side. Finally Conkling, in his most imperious and dictatorial way, interrupted Gordon with the remark: 'Oh, go on with the calendar.'"

Gordon immediately rebuked the insult by saying "the Senate was conducting the public business, and the Senator from New York had no right to dictate to the Vice President." Every Senator heard the remark, but Conkling affected not to, and asked the Senator from Georgia what he said. Thereupon, Gordon replied distinctly and firmly: "I said that the Senator from New York had no right to give orders to the Vice President." Then Conkling rose to his feet and said excitedly:

"If the Senator from Georgia stated that I was giving orders to the Vice President, he stated what is not true."

Gordon, exasperated both by Conkling's words and manner, repeated with some warmth his previous assertion, and Conkling more warmly and insultingly repeated his.

Of course there was intense excitement in the chamber. It was apparent to all that Conkling intended to come as near giving the lie direct as he could without giving it, and every ear was stretched to hear Gordon's reply. It came firmly and distinctly:

"Very well, we will settle that."

"Yes," answered Gordon, "We will settle it here."

"No," replied Gordon, with much emphasis, "We will not settle it here."

There the matter dropped. Later in the day Senator Thurman tried to smooth the matter over by assuming that the two Senators had misunderstood each other, and that Senator Conkling did not intend to impeach General

Gordon's veracity, but both Senators remained ominously silent.

Last night General Gordon declined to say anything except that, of course, the injunction of secrecy prevented him from stating what actually did happen in executive matters. He was closed for most of the evening with Senator Lamar and a few of his intimate friends, but, of course, all are absolutely reticent as to what passed between them. The only basis on which to form a judgment is the few remarks that have been dropped by those who heard and saw the whole proceeding. "Great God," said one Senator, "do these men expect the South to stand everything. The South has borne a great deal, but there are some things that cannot be borne."

"I think," said another, "that some things which were said will have to be apologized for." Senator Conkling also declined to express any opinion last night except privately to his friends. When asked what he would do in case he was challenged, he replied, with a sneer: "I will wait until I get a challenge."

Some who are in his confidence, however, are authority for the statement that Senator Conkling is intentionally trying to provoke a challenge, in order to make political capital out of it, by making it the basis both of a criminal suit and of a resolution of expulsion.

The Eastern War.

A Russian dispatch says that on Thursday sixty battalions of Turks attacked the forces of the Grand Duke Vladimir all along the line, directing, however, their principal efforts against the left and centre. They attacked Metekba six times, but were each time repulsed with great loss. At one p. m. the Thirty-fifth division of the Twelfth Russian Army Corps appeared on the scene, and attacking the Turks in flank compelled them, with the co-operation of the rest of the Russian forces, to retire upon Krassna, their retreat to Jovan Citlik being cut off. The Grand Duke Vladimir narrowly escaped a ball, which struck very near him.

Suleiman Pasha, despoiling the same affair, claims that he carried some of the entrenchments of Metekba, but was unable to hold them owing to the fire from the heights and arrival of Russian reinforcements. He consequently withdrew to his original position; after a seven hours' battle. Three thousand Russians were killed.

A Bucarest special says a bullet grazed the Czar's head in this engagement.

It is reported that it has been necessary to amputate Osman Pasha's foot.

M. Crispien, the Serbian agent, has delivered a speech before the Serbian parliament, in which he declared that he was going to fight against Turkey, and started for Belgrade. War was announced at Belgrade yesterday by salutes of artillery. Prince Milan will leave for Alexinautz to day. He has issued decrees proclaiming a state of siege and announcing that public functionaries who agitate against war will be dismissed.

In his speech from the throne on the opening of the Turkish Parliament the Sultan declared that Russia began the war. Turkey, compelled to defend herself against aggression, has offered the utmost resistance. The Ottomans had displayed a most patriotic spirit, as evinced by the self denial of all classes, and the courage of the Turkish soldiers had excited the admiration of the world. His Majesty spoke with special approbation of the formation of a civic guard. His non-Muslim subjects had shown a conscientious desire to share in the defence of the country. The constitution granted to non-Muslim subjects perfect equality in the eye of the law; therefore, as they had acquired corresponding duties at home it was only natural that they should share the military service, and the Government had decided to enlist non-Muslim subjects in the ranks of the army. The only safeguard for the Empire was completely to carry out the constitution. The Sultan's dearest wishes were to see all classes of his subjects united in the lines of complete equality and the country profit by the acceptance of modern ideas, financial reforms, the fulfilment of national engagements, the adjustment of taxation in accordance with the rules of sound political economy, the collection of revenue on an equitable system, the revision of the judicial system, reform to facilitate the tenure and sale of landed property, the bestowal of municipal privileges as the basis of an administrative system, and finally by the reorganization of the gendarmerie. Unfortunately, the calamities of war had retarded the accomplishment of these reforms; nevertheless, the Sultan hoped for the future progress of reform. Various measures had been prepared by the Council of State, and would be submitted to the consideration of Parliament, concerning civil procedure, the general election, ministerial functions, the High Court of Justice, the public press, and the right of the State of siege. He concluded as follows:—"Gentlemen, and Deputies—Truth can be elicited on questions of political and civil rights only by perfect liberty of discussion. That liberty having been conferred by the constitution, you require from me no further instructions. Our relations with friendly Powers are of a most cordial kind. May the most High bless our common efforts."

Servet Pasha has informed Mr. Luyard, the British Ambassador, and Count Zichy, the Austrian Ambassador to Constantinople, that he considered a continuation of the war a useless sacrifice, and he would, therefore, endeavor to persuade the Turkish Cabinet to invoke the mediation of Austria and England to regard the conditions of peace. He considered the political and territorial integrity of Turkey indispensable. Austria will take no initiative unless there seems a chance of success, and so far there have been no signs of readiness on the part of Russia to negotiate. Servet Pasha's conditions also seem to be unacceptable, but the impression is that they will be modified.

The circular of the Porte states that the Porte desires to stop the effusion of blood; therefore it is ready to come to terms, and appeals to the feelings of justice of the Great Powers, but is not yet at the end of its resources, and is ready to sacrifice all for the independence and integrity of the fatherland.

A telegram from Constantinople says:—"The peace and war parties are contending for the supremacy. It is believed that the war party will prevail."

There is trouble in the Lebanon in consequence of the refusal of the inhabitants to furnish a military contingent or send deputies to Parliament, based on the fact that the Lebanon is under European guarantee.

The London Post this morning, says it is understood that the British Cabinet yesterday had before them a circular from the Porte intimating its willingness to accept the mediation of Europe. The Porte asserts that the guarantees of good government furnished by the Constitution are far more advantageous than the establishment of autonomous States, which can only lead to the disintegration of the empire. The Post, however, considers that there are no present prospects of the acceptance of mediation, as Germany is hostile thereto, and any offer on the part of Russia is not likely to be well received by Russia.

The Scotsman's London correspondent, writing on Thursday, says:—"To-morrow Lord Derby will have to announce to his colleagues the all-important fact that both Russia and Turkey are anxious to make peace."

LONDON, Dec. 15.—A Constantinople dispatch says:—"The circular note dispatched by the Porte to the signatories of the treaty of 1871, commencing by the statement that the origin of the present important events is perfectly known. The Imperial Government is conscious of having done nothing to provoke the war. It has done everything to avoid it, and has vainly sought to discover Russia's motives in her aggressive campaign. The Porte has shown a desire for improvement by reorganizing the judicial system and devising reforms without distinction of race or religion according to the constitution which had everywhere been well

received. Partial reform is of no avail. The adoption of improvements in one part of the empire would only be a premium to other communities to revolt. Any doubt as to the execution of these reforms should disappear before the solemn declaration of the Porte now makes. A state of war simply retards such reforms and is disastrous to the country generally, destroying agricultural interests, killing industry and ruining financial reorganizations."

Independently of these arrangements for reform what reason can there be for continuing the war? Russia has declared that she is not animated by a spirit of conquest. The military honor of both sides must be abundantly satisfied. What object can there be in prolonging a contest ruinous to both countries? The moment has arrived for the belligerent powers to accept peace without affecting their dignity. Europe might now usefully interpose her good offices since the Porte is ready to come to terms, and is still prepared to fight in its own defense. It is ready, moreover, to sacrifice all for the independence and integrity of the fatherland but the Porte is desirous to stop the further effusion of blood and, therefore, appeals to the feelings of justice which must animate the Great Powers, hoping that they will receive these overtures favorably."

LONDON, Dec. 15.—The Plevna correspondent of the Times, telegraphs that he believes the Russians will not advance immediately, but await the effects of the fall of that place. The heavy guns which were already on the Sofia road between Plevna and the river Vid, have been hauled back, which would have been a waste of labor if a speedy advance on the Balkans was intended.

A correspondent with the Grand Duke Vladimir, shows that the Metekba affair was confined to skirmishes and cavalry, with some field artillery practice. He thinks the Turks may have lost a thousand men, altogether, as they were much exposed, but the Russian loss was insignificant. The Russian force on the field was three brigades. The Turks were driven across the river Lom. Their entrenchments on the west bank are now in possession of the Russians.

Osman Pasha has sent a short telegram to the Porte stating that he had not received reinforcements nor provisions, but nevertheless he resisted as long as possible. Finally he made an attempt to force a passage through the Russian lines of intrenchment in which the Turkish forces despite their valor were unsuccessful and he himself was taken prisoner.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 15.—The Chamber of Deputies has elected a Christian as its President.

Prince Milan's proclamation which was issued at Belgrade yesterday, recounts the Turkish atrocities and violations of faith since the treaty of peace made last February, concludes as follows:—"Let us move forward alongside the victorious banner of the Czar, liberator, with Christian faith in God, the protector of right, and success is sure. Given in the name of our country's welfare, Serbia's independence and her heroic people. It is God's will."

(Signed) MILAN OBRENYVITCH.

Letter from Richmond.
The Election of State Officers—The Stolen Bonds—A Flood of Resolutions—The Proposed Cutting Down of Per Diem—An Instance.

[Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.]

RICHMOND, Dec. 14.—The indications lead me to think that the Legislature will not go into the election of any of the basement officers until after Christmas, and perhaps not elect any of the State officers until that time.

The investigation into the abstraction of funds is progressing very slowly. The officers in the Second Auditor's office are pretty well satisfied as to who committed the theft, and at the proper time will make the fact known to the investigating committee. The committee is now examining each of the clerks who were employed when the additional funds were put on for funding. The party who stole the bonds is not in the office now. That much is certain.

Nothing like the number of resolutions were ever known here before in the House. Resolutions of enquiry, resolutions of expediency, resolutions of instructions, resolutions of complaint, all pour in to the clerk's desk, and clog the business very materially. The committees will have their hands full of them. Many are not worth considering. The committee for Courts of Justice has the bulk of them to consider. I learn that Judge B. W. Lacy, of New Kent, will be assigned to duty on this committee. Many of the resolutions are looking to the abolition of offices or the cutting down of salaries. There is no doubt that a great saving can be effected in the original expense of the State.

Senator Smith has brought in another bill looking to retrocession of the debt, which fixes the pay of the legislators at three hundred and sixty dollars per session. It won't pass, for a line must be drawn somewhere, as the man said when he jumped a fence with a mad bull behind him.

What does the Judge expect us to live on? said an irate and disgusted member of the Legislature. He wants to cut our pay down to twenty-eight dollars a week, when our board comes to twenty-five dollars, and drinks are fifteen cents apiece.

Yes, chimed in another, what between Senator Smith's bill and Dr. Moffatt's punch, there won't be nobody but tramps in the House next year.

Yes, said an honorable member from the Southside, that reminds me of a fact I saw last winter. I was on the Committee of Asylums and Prisons, and on a visit to the Williamsburg asylum. The superintendent pointed out a inmate covering in a corner of a cell. The poor type of humanity was a fearful object to look at, the very quintessence of abject wretchedness; his form was fearfully emaciated, his face was like death itself, and his eyes so sunk in his head as to be scarcely discernible.

Who is he, and what type of madness has he? I asked.

He has a singular mania, said the superintendent. He imagines that he can live on air and water, and refuses all nourishment, and we can't force him to eat. He still clings to the idea that he is succeeding wonderfully well, but he is sinking daily. Two days afterwards I was informed that he was dead.

Those fond of drawing inferences can pull a strong one from this.

A conference of conservative members of the Legislature was held at the capital to-night, having for its object the perpetuation of the conservative party, and to exclude from all future caucuses all independents and members not elected as regular nominees of that party. Resolutions were adopted excluding all members from conservative conferences who did not bind themselves to abide by the objects for which the meeting was called. Only sixty-two of the conservative membership of the General Assembly affirmed their names to the pledge. None of what is known as "simon pure readjusters" were among the number. The meeting was at one time quite turbulent, and a difficulty between H. L. Harrison, a leading readjuster of the House from Sussex, and Senator John W. Daniel, of Lynchburg, opponent of that faction, seemed imminent. The readjusters present withdrew, entering a protest to the proceedings, and giving notice that they would not be bound by its action.

A bill has been introduced in the Senate to amend the charter of the Potomac and Manassas Railroad Co., which provides that the company may construct a branch of their line from the most suitable point on its line in the Valley of James river to the city of Richmond. The company wants the use of the convicts for free of charge. It is proposed to further the purposes of the company, that the State assign to the company all claim and demand for principal and interest it has against the government of the United States for advances made by said State to aid in the construction of the public

buildings at Washington, fifty per centum of which, when recovered, shall be given the company, and the other half, or same amount in State bonds, turned into the State treasury.

Senator J. V. Brooke, of Fauquier county, has been elected chairman of the joint committee on the revision of the criminal laws.

Legislature Courtesses.

In the conservative caucus of the Virginia Legislature, last night, as reported to the Richmond Dispatch, Mr. Harrison, of Sussex, said he had been invited here by General Lee. It was his understanding that this was not to be called a conservative caucus, and that no gentleman was to be bound by its action.

General Lee said that the gentleman had misunderstood him; that he had said that it was a conference of conservatives about whose title there was no question, and that any gentleman who felt that he could not participate would be at liberty to retire at any time.

At a later stage of the proceedings, Mr. Harrison spoke of caucus tricks and of some gentleman prominent here who had on yesterday been negotiating with the readjusters, and took up his hat to leave the hall.

Major Daniel got the floor, and called upon Mr. Harrison to stop, as what he intended to say it was important for him to hear.

Mr. Harrison halted near the door, or some one touched him on the shoulder and called him back.

Major Daniel stated that he inferred from a look or gesture of Mr. Harrison that Mr. Harrison meant to designate him as a caucus trickster. He asked Mr. Harrison if his conclusion was correct. The question, or its equivalent, was repeated three times by Maj. Daniel, slowly and emphatically, and the answers were not satisfactory to him. [Mr. Harrison, is a little deaf.] He then, in every decided terms, expressed his opinion of Mr. Harrison, presuming that Mr. Harrison had alluded to him as a caucus trickster. Mr. Harrison advanced upon Maj. Daniel, and the Major stood awaiting the assault, when the chairman called upon the Sergeant at Arms to preserve order, and that officer and the crowd rushed forward and intercepted the advances when the two gentlemen were not three feet apart—Maj. Daniel standing erect as a statue and cool as a cucumber, and Mr. Harrison being the air of a man resolutely determined to vindicate himself or die in the attempt.

Explanations followed, resulting in Mr. Harrison showing that he meant no personal reflection upon Maj. Daniel or any one; whereupon Maj. Daniel made a retraction, in which he said that he recognized Mr. Harrison as a truthful and honorable gentleman and the peer of any man in the House.

The following resolution was then passed:—"Resolved, That all members of the General Assembly who have heretofore signed the call for this conference, and who may authorize the clerk to affix their names to the same shall alone constitute this conference, and that the clerk be directed to make out a roll of such members, which alone shall be used whenever any vote in this conference is recorded."

The vote was then called as to those who were present and would abide by the action of the meeting. This was responded to as follows:—"Senators:—Messrs. Brooke, Betts, Bland, Daniel, Griffin, Good, Griff, Harrison, Hurt, Hurt, Luck, McComb, Moncure, Moorman, Mashall, Smith, and Walston.

From the House the following gentlemen responded:—Messrs. Anderson, Bland, Boock, Bohannon, Burger, Burnham, Clarke, Coghill, Cox, Crutchfield, Edmunds Edwards, Finney, Graves, Gray, Green, Hanger, Healy, Hiver, Hunter, Hurt, Hurt, Luck, McComb, Moncure, Moorman, Mushbach, Pulliam, William B. Taliaferro, Warner T. Taliaferro, Trout, Van Lear.

France.
President MacMahon's message to the Chambers expounds as follows: "The exercise of the right of dissolution could not be established as a system of government. I believed it to be myself to exercise the right, and I conform myself to the reply of the country. By the Constitution of 1875 a parliamentary republic was formed. The Constitution, while establishing my irresponsibility, instituted the joint and individual responsibility of the Ministers. The independence of the Ministers is the condition of their responsibility. The principles of the Constitution are those of my government. The termination of the crisis will be the starting point of a new era of prosperity, for the promotion of which all the public powers will coöperate. Harmony being reestablished between the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies, and the latter being henceforth assured against premature dissolution, the Chambers will be enabled to achieve the great legislative labors demanded by the public interests. The International Exhibition will offer to the world fresh testimony of the vitality of our country."

President MacMahon's message to the Chambers was much applauded by the Senators of the Left in the Chamber of Deputies. The members of the Left Centre, principally applauded, but the message on the whole made a strong impression. The Right were silent. The Government, in accordance with the decision of the Budget Committee, will ask the Chamber to vote a sixth of the budget and the four direct taxes. The Constitutional believes that the Chamber will adjourn on Thursday next until January 7th.

Many reactionary prefects and sub prefects have resigned. It is stated that the first batch of prefectural changes will be gazetted on Sunday. The clerical journals are violent in their comments, especially on the appointment of M. Waddington, who is a Protestant. The Gazette de France says the insurrection has triumphed.

A Paris dispatch says: "Only two of the proposed Cabinet are new to office. General Borel, Minister of War, was formerly President MacMahon's Chief of Staff, and is a skillful and laborious soldier. M. Bardoux, Minister of Public Instruction, is one of the most popular members of the moderate Left; he was Under Secretary of the Ministry of Justice to M. Dufrane. M. Waddington's appointment to be Minister of Foreign Affairs will be received with warm satisfaction by the whole diplomatic body, and constitutes a happy and pacific omen. He is tolerant, and a moderate Liberal in politics and religion."

The Chamber of Deputies will to-day vote the four direct taxes and two months of the Budget.

A Card from Mr. Hunter.
General Rogers seemed to suppose in his card yesterday that I had charged him with not keeping the books required by law. I certainly did not intend to make any such charge. I do not know, and did not pretend to state, what books were kept in the Second Auditor's office. What I meant to state was that if a list was kept of the old bonds sent to the Second Auditor's for exchange, and also a list of new bonds issued, by a comparison of the two it would be easy to avoid the mistake of an issue of an order for exchanging bonds a second time when it had already been done once.

Very respectfully,
R. M. T. HUNTER.

COURT OF APPEALS OF VIRGINIA.—Taylor vs. Cleary et al.; petition for rehearing filed by plaintiff in error.

Bowers, administrator vs. Bowers et al.; partly argued.

The midnight marauder should not be banished from our dwelling any more quickly than should a cough or cold of any kind be driven from the system. Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup quickly yet positively places all colds under its control.

SPECIAL.—Handsome Gents' and Ladies' Handkerchiefs, in fancy boxes; also Silk Handkerchiefs and Mullers at I. Eichberg's.

DIED.
On Thursday, Dec. 13, ALICE DOWNEY, wife of Michael Downey, of this city, aged 64 years, a native of county Tipperary, Ireland. [New York papers please copy.]

News of the Day.

Among the nominations sent to the Secretary yesterday were those of G. Wiley Wells, Mississippi, to be consul at Hong Kong; David H. Bailey, of Ohio, now consul at Shanghai, to be Consul General at Shanghai; Lewis, United States Attorney for the Eastern district of Virginia; David Porter, Mayor of Customs at Savannah, Ga.; J. S. Gilchrist, Surveyor of Customs at Washington, Va.; John Oglesby, Assistant Appraiser Merchandise at New Orleans. Wm. M. Micken, to be United States Surveyor General, Washington Territory. Edward C. Wade, Georgia, to be Collector of Internal Revenue, Third District of Georgia.

Judge J. J. Mackimmon has returned to Nashville, Tenn., from New York, with a position from the syndicate to settle the debt at fifty cents on the dollar, and a personal interest. A Nashville, Tenn., dispatch of the 14, says a resolution was introduced in General Assembly this afternoon, to fund the State debt of Tennessee at 50 cents on the dollar by the issue of new bonds bearing four per cent interest, the principal payable in ten years. It passed its first reading and was eagerly referred.

F. C. Bangs, the actor, broke down at Cleveland, Ohio, Thursday night, in *Comedians*, coming from physical exhaustion. He had troubled some days with neuralgia in the head, and at a point in the play where the physical exertion is needed, he fell down and was carried off the stage. After the emergency he could be heard to groan from the scenes.

Captain Corbitt, of the twenty-fourth Infantry attributes most of the ill feeling on the border to the fact that much of the land in Texas is claimed by Mexican residents and old Spanish grants.

The Rev. Dr. Knick, of Minneapolis, has declined the missionary bishopric of Arizona and New Mexico.

J. D. Easter & Co., Chicago, the large agricultural implement dealers in the West, have made an assignment.

Virginia News.